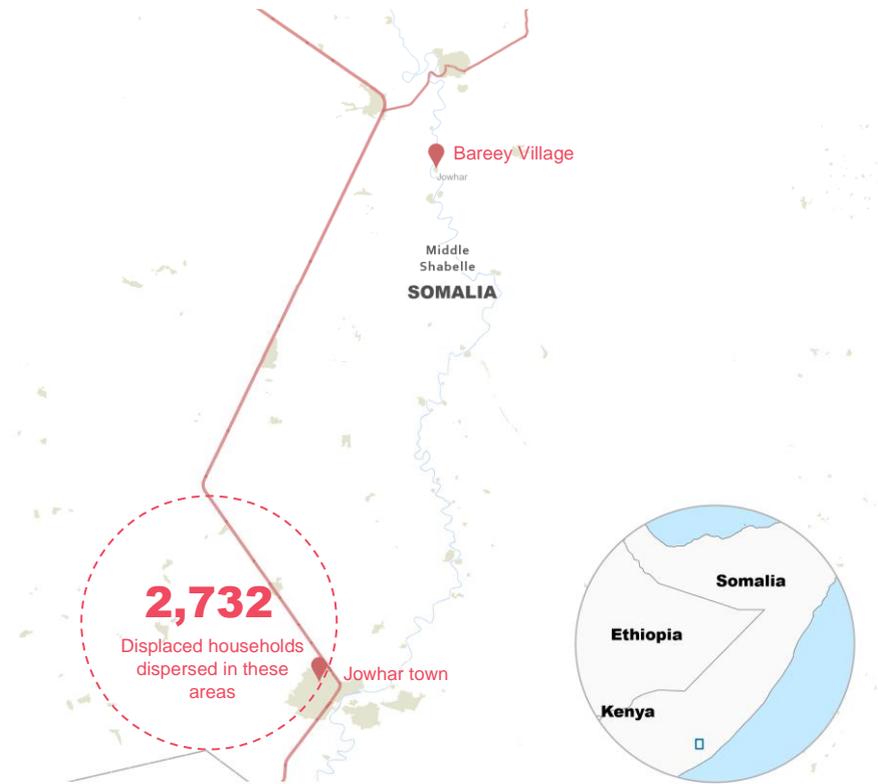


Flooding of the Shabelle River has displaced scores of local residents, disrupting movements between Jowhar and Mogadishu



Background

The Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) has monitored a growing number of people being displaced due to flooding of the Shabelle River. A protracted downpour of rains on 1 May caused the Shabelle River to overflow its banks, resulting in the submerging of communities along the riverbanks. Some of the displaced were seen taking shelter under trees. The situation, which displaced an estimated **16,392 persons**, has also engendered the suspension of transportation along the road between Jowhar and Mogadishu, leaving several passengers and commercial vehicles stranded. Similar overflowing of river banks is also reported in Mioko and Bareey, Jowhar District. Local authorities fear that the sustained concentration of water may permanently disconnect the Jowhar-Mogadishu road if swift action is not taken to remedy the situation.

The main route between downtown Jowhar and the Jowhar Airport is also at serious risk of disconnection. Besides, a large swath of farmlands and infrastructure have been destroyed, and livelihood has been severely disrupted in communities hardest hit by the crisis. One in ten affected households with whom PRMN monitors spoke confirmed loss of farm products with some entirely washed away. The products most cited were sesame, maize, beans, and vegetables. Local authorities have identified three potential areas where water levels are expected to overflow the river banks. This discovery suggests the likelihood of further flooding in the coming days.

#	Affected Villages	District	Households	Current Location
1	Moiko	Jowhar	405	Kongo
2	New Garash	Jowhar	400	Danyereey
3	Bareey	Jowhar	750	Gumbe
4	Lebiga	Jowhar	800	Dhaygawaan
5	Xansholey	Jowhar	377	Dumaley
Total			2,732 (Approximately 16,392 persons)	

Protection Issues

- **Displacement:** The displaced population comprises the elderly, children and women, including lactating and expecting mothers. Local response is ongoing but remains minimal in proportion to the scale of the needs and the underlying urgency.
- **Restriction of movement:** Road movements have been involuntarily suspended, causing scores of passengers and vehicles to be stranded in unsuitable conditions, arguably typical of displacement. Additional flooding could create a situation of total lockdown in affected communities, further exacerbating the situation.
- **Destruction of property and livelihood assets:** Both individual and communal homes, as well as roads and education infrastructure have been destroyed, leaving a majority of the affected population without shelter and access to basic services including food. More houses are likely to collapse due to prolonged flooding.

Urgent Needs



Food



Emergency Shelter



Non-Food Item



Communal Latrine



Safe Drinking Water



Treated Mosquito Net

A video of the flooding situation can be accessed [here](#) (Source: Dalsan TV)

An affected community member in Jowhar.



A family scrambles to safety in Bareey. Credit: Abdishakur Shaashaa



The PRMN (Protection & Return Monitoring Network) is a UNHCR-led project which identifies and reports on displacements as well as protection risks and incidents underlying such population movements. On behalf of UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 38 local partners in the field in Somalia (South Central regions, Puntland and Somaliland) undertake data gathering (primarily through interviews with affected communities and key informants) and monitoring at strategic locations.

To request further details on displacement, please contact SOMMOPMN@UNHCR.ORG

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